

00862.108808.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: N.Y.A.
TAKAO IKUNO ET AL.	)	
	:	Art Unit: N.Y.A.
Application No.: 10/598,513	)	
	:	
(National Phase of International Application)	)	
No. PCT/JP2005/003824, filed March 1, 2005 :	:	
	)	
Filed: September 1, 2006	:	
	:	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING	)	
APPARATUS, METHOD AND	:	
PROGRAM	)	November 1, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed, except for the listed U.S. Patent documents.

Each of the listed documents was cited in at least one of an International Search Report, a Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, and an International Preliminary Examination Report (copies enclosed) during the international phase of International Application No. PCT/JP2005/003824.

For the concise explanation of relevance of JPA 6-291991, the Examiner is directed to the English-language abstract attached thereto, as well as to corresponding U.S. Patent Nos. 5,574,834 and 5,787,239.

For the concise explanation of relevance of JPA 2001-27986, the Examiner is directed to the English-language abstract attached thereto, as well as to corresponding U.S. Patent No. 6,587,735.

For the concise explanation of relevance of JPA 2005-72831, the Examiner is directed to the English-language abstract attached thereto, as well as to corresponding U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2005/057778 A1.

For the concise explanation of relevance of JPA 2003-298383, the Examiner is directed to the English-language abstract attached thereto.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>00862.108808.</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. <b>PCT/JP2005/003824</b>			
		APPLICANTS <b>TAKAO IKUNO ET AL.</b>					
		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE <b>March 1, 2005</b>		GROUP <b>N.Y.A.</b>			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,574,834	11/12/96	Horie et al.	395	114	
		5,787,239	7/28/98	Horie et al.	395	114	
		6,587,735	7/1/03	Yaguchi	700	2	
	US	2005/057778 A1	3/17/05	Morikawa et al.	358	296	12/9/03
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	JPA	6-291991	10/18/94	JAPAN			Abstract & Corresponding US Patents
	JPA	2001-27986	1/30/01	JAPAN			Abstract & Corresponding US Patent
	JPA	2005-72831	3/17/05	JAPAN			Abstract & Corresponding US Publication
	JPA	2003-298383	10/17/03	JAPAN			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 509. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.